

REMARKS

Claims 1-18, 20, 21 and 37 are currently pending in the application. By this amendment, claims 20 and 21 are amended and claims 19, 22 and 23 are canceled. The above amendments do not add new matter to the application and are fully supported by the specification. Reconsideration of the rejected claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 1-18 and 37 are allowed and that claims 20 and 21 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if presented in independent form. Accordingly, as Applicants have presented claims 20 and 21 in independent form, Applicants submit that these claims should also be indicated to be allowed.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection

Claims 19, 22 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) for being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,825,086 to LEE et al.

Applicants traverse this basis of rejection for the reasons already made of record. However, in view of the fact that claims 19, 22 and 23 have been canceled in order to advance prosecution of the allowed/allowable claims, Applicants submit that this basis of rejection is now moot.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the above-noted rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) should be withdrawn.

Comments on Reasons for Allowance

In response to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance set forth in the Office Action, Applicants wish to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of the indicated claims in the present application. In this regard, while Applicants do not disagree with the Examiner's indication that certain identified features are not disclosed by the references, Applicants submit that the claims in the present application recite a combination of features, and that the basis for patentability of these claims is based on the totality of the recited features.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all of the claims are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below, if needed. Applicants hereby make a written conditional petition for extension of time, if required. Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 09-0458.

Respectfully submitted,
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June 26, 2006
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